

Toxic Utility Poles

Pentachlorophenol

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- Pentachlorophenol (PCP) is an anthropogenic chemical that is ubiquitous in the environment as a result of extensive historical use in the wood preservation industry.
- Impurities in technical-grade PCP, which may include polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs) and other highly toxic impurities .
- Penta was used in the production of utility poles in Pensacola for many years resulting in numerous superfund sites contaminated with Dioxins.
- Penta poles have been placed in Pensacola and throughout the United States. The smell of # Diesel Fuel used in poles has presented air quality and groundwater issues throughout the United States.

Toxic Pole AT&T Pole 3-2010



Toxic Poles AT&T 3-2010



- Pole set in ground March 2010
- Pentachlorophenol
- # Diesel fuel

AT&T Toxic Pole

3-2010



Toxic Pole March 2022



Toxic Poles

3-2022



Toxic Poles treated with CCA

- Other types of toxins used in telephone pole production includes
 - Chromated copper Arsenate (CCA). CCA leachate contains arsenic, chromium and copper. Gulf Power and AT&T both use these poles. The greatest health risk is from arsenic.
 - Creosote

Recommendations

- The citizens of Pensacola who filed a complaint with the City of Pensacola Environmental Advisory Board regarding the environmental and health impacts to their neighborhood should have their complaint reconsidered.
- Refer this matter to the EAB to investigate the issues raised in May, 2010 regarding AT&T's toxic utility poles.
- Have EBA consider the recommendations brought before it in 2010 on behalf of the citizens of Pensacola.
- Require all utility companies use only environmentally safe utility poles as a condition to entering franchise agreements.